



Testimony in Support of

House Bill 5673: AAC the Reformation of Certain Taxes and Tax Equity

Senate Bill 771: AAC Establishing a Refundable Child Tax Credit

Senate Bill 772: AAC Increasing the Applicable Percentage of the Earned Income Tax Credit

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of three bills that, if passed, move our state forward to deliver more economic justice and equity to Connecticut residents – and expand revenue to support much needed programs such as HUSKY health coverage to eligible people regardless of immigration status. (My colleague, Rosana Garcia Ferraro, will be testifying on behalf of HUSKY for Immigrants today.)

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut is committed to working for health justice and sees it as part of the broader struggle for racial, social and economic justice. We are testifying today as a proud member of the Recovery for All coalition.

Our state has a long way to go to right the wrongs (or some might say break our “steady habits”) that have reinforced inequity, as well as promoted racial and economic segregation, in Connecticut.

It is crucial that we confront this history and re-direct its path by rebuilding a tax structure that puts people and community first. Don’t we want to be a state where every child has what they need to get their best start in life? A state in which parents have jobs that can provide a home that is safe, with good food, clean air and quality health care? Where each student is nurtured in schools that have the resources needed from early child care through higher ed? Where all people are encouraged to engage in their communities and be a part of a vibrant democracy? A state that leads in equity?

I venture to guess that is what you want for your children and loved ones. It takes work to provide the best possible chance for all of Connecticut’s families. It is within your power to pass HB 5673 and move our state toward more equity and opportunity. No longer should we tolerate a tax structure that unduly favors the most wealthy, fuels inequity and reinforces racism.

You will hear a lot of testimony today in support of HB 5673 and two other important pro-family and equity bills – SB 771 establishing a refundable child tax credit and SB 772 increasing the earned income tax credit. Please listen closely to the stories people share,

and the evidence put forward by advocates and experts. If you really listen, I challenge you to do anything less than work to pass these bills this year. If you choose to re-direct our state's path toward equity, we will be with you every step of the way.

Thank you for your consideration. Now please, let's do the right thing and pass these bills.

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut's mission is to accelerate the movement for health justice for everybody because health is a human right and core to social justice and equity.